

Educational Technology Leadership Master's Program: The Last Step

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A comprehensive look into a summation of the last eighteen months of study is included in this examination. It is my sincere hope that the time invested during my studies, researching, viewing, developing and sharing are properly shared with you and others. I plan to share with you my position and leadership goals created during this endeavor but I would also like to share many of my experiences along the way also. Additionally, there are many reflections of several of the courses but I would also like to explain my favorite courses too. At the conclusion of this examination, I will present to you a three year professional development plan for myself.

Position and Leadership Goals

Position Goal

Leadership is a big word and comes with many different overtones. One can be a leader of anything at anytime but it means very little if no one follows you. My current position at Region 5 Education Service Center is to be a leader of our department, in other words, I am the director. I have had the pleasure of performing this role for the past number of years and look forward to many more. The position came with many responsibilities and a strong background experience made it easy for me to fall into the role but that has changed over the last two years. The world around us has changed drastically in regards to technology and in order to keep up with the changes and maintain my success as a director, I felt it was necessary to grow as an individual. This program was perfect for me to use as a means to reach the knowledge level I felt I needed to grow and to be an avid technology leader. I enrolled in the program to become

more and that has truly happened as I feel empowered to do more, reach for more and plan the future around more. As the future goes I am not certain at this time if I would change positions. I am very happy with where I work. Currently, the work I do is my passion and I do not want to give that up.

Leadership Goal

As I mentioned above, the word leadership embodies many overtones and was a small part of the reason I decided to return to college. The technology area selection was driven by the position I currently hold at Region 5 Education Service Center as a director in the School Management Software Department under the technology division. The personal motivation was driven by the desire to show my sons and nieces that education is primary in the success of their future. This is my twenty-ninth year to serve in the administrative area of education. The time spent in this field has opened many doors and opportunities to work with children and adults in many different roles in church and work related activities. I can honestly say with sound conviction that the personal motivation was greater than the educational motivation due solely to being able to be an example.

The benefits of participating in this program have far exceeded my expectations since I entered the program strictly for personal gain. The benefits have given me the ability to speak about current technical terminology and, participate in extra technology activities at work and personally. I have already accomplished goals in my leadership role. The position I currently hold has changed and I have acquired additional technology skills in the past eighteen months. The product we support at the Region 5 Education Service Center was previously client based and has now moved to a web based version so the benefits has paid off significantly for me

as a director. Even greater still, upon the completion of this masters program, I will be more marketable as I retire in the future and hope to work part-time as a consultant.

The personal growth, experience, gained knowledge and acquiring of new technology tools are more than I could have ever hoped for. It is with a very humble attitude that I end this program and move into a newer, fresher aspect of who I am and what I would like to be in the future. Being able to share this with my sons and nieces has been such an incredible opportunity. The greater opportunity in my opinion is to serve as an advocate for education.